

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 185275

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AF:WESCHAUFLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 185275

NODIS

FOR THE AMBASSADOR ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: JOSHUA NKOMO VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF:STATE 184165

1. IN ADDITION TO THE POINTS MADE IN REFTEL, YOU SHOULD POINT OUT TO THE SAUDIS THAT WHILE WE CANNOT TELL THEM WHO THEY SHOULD ASSIST, IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT JOSHUA NKOMO IS THE KEY TO A MODERATE SOLUTION IN THE RHODESIAN SITUATION AND THE ONE MOST LIKELY TO CONTAIN THE SOVIETS AND THE AFRICAN RADICALS.

2. IF THE SAUDIS ARE PREPARED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, NKOMO IS THE MAN. AFTER THEY HAVE THOUGHT OVER THE MATTER, AND BEFORE THEY TAKE ACTION, THE SAUDIS MIGHT LIKE TO CHECK WITH US. WE WILL BE PREPARED TO GIVE THEM AT THAT TIME THE LATEST READING ON EVENTS IN RHODESIA, OUR INITIATIVES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND NKOMO'S PROSPECTS. KISSINGER

SECRET

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